

## LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Mr. Bynum and Mr. Thoburn.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal.

Mr. George H. Thoburn is a working man, living in Covington, Ky. In the election of November, 1886, he was nominated as the candidate of the United Labor party for Congress in the Sixth congressional district of Kentucky, running against Hon. John G. Carlisle. Mr. Thoburn's election was clearly indicated in the result, but Mr. Carlisle was counted in. Mr. Thoburn contested the election, and in his address to Congress, asserted as the basis of his contest:

That gross frauds were perpetrated and committed by the supporters and partisans of John G. Carlisle, in his interest as his opponent, in the counties of Trimble, Grant, Gallatin, Campbell, Carroll, Boone, Madison and Kenton.

That the returned majority of 325 votes, which it was alleged was received by Mr. Carlisle in congressional election, is false and fraudulent.

In many election precincts in the counties the polls were not opened until after the hour of 6 o'clock, and were closed before 4 o'clock, thus preventing many persons from voting for said Thoburn.

In consequence of the outrageous frauds perpetrated at the election, and in the district at large, John G. Carlisle was unlawfully and wrongfully returned as a member elected from said congressional district. See Congressional Record, p. 631.

The committee on the majority brought in two reports. When the majority report was made Mr. Thoburn protested that his evidence was suppressed by the committee; that he was treated very unfairly by them. The minority made the following report:

A strong ex-parte showing was made by affidavits and otherwise, when showing, in the views of the minority committee, tended very strongly to establish the following facts:

1. That great and inexcusable frauds were committed in the conduct of the congressional election in the Sixth congressional district of Kentucky, whereby the apparent defeat of Thoburn was accomplished.

2. That when it was discovered that by the vote of the people of that district that Thoburn was elected, there was evinced a determination on the part of the friends of Carlisle to prevent such a result being announced and the certificates of election being given to Thoburn.

3. That forgery was actually committed for the purpose, whereby Thoburn was deprived of said certificates.

4. That election returns were tampered with and changed for such purpose, and with such results.

5. That telegrams had been sent on the night of election to have the returns withheld for the purpose of altering them in behalf of Carlisle. See Congressional Record, page 623.

The discussion on these two reports was lengthy and occupies several pages of the Congressional Record. Not one word, however, was uttered by Mr. Bynum in favor of Mr. Thoburn's claim to his seat. The majority report was to the effect that Mr. Thoburn was not elected and that Mr. Carlisle was. On the first ballot Mr. Bynum voted for Mr. Thoburn, but did not vote. This vote showed no quorum.

Another vote was taken the next day and Mr. Bynum voted squarely against Mr. Thoburn, and in favor of Mr. Carlisle. This vote showed no quorum.

On the third ballot Mr. Bynum again voted against Mr. Thoburn, giving Mr. Carlisle the seat—Congressional Record, pages 641 and 661. Fifthth Congress.

The following will explain itself as to what Mr. Thoburn thinks of Mr. Bynum's action in this matter:

COVINGTON, Ky., Sept. 11, 1888.

Mr. W. H. Hobbs:

Dear Sir—Your letter embodying an inquiry concerning Hon. W. D. Bynum's vote cast in the contest between Hon. John G. Carlisle and myself has been received. In reply I regret exceedingly to say that his final vote was to suppress my testimony and cast Mr. Carlisle, though in justice to his natural impulse to vote, at the beginning he favored re-opening the case, and so voted. On the second call he failed to vote, and on the third call he voted for Mr. Carlisle. I am sorry to say that the extraordinary pressure, and vote to seat the speaker, as he did also on the final call the Monday morning after the election, was so great that I was unable to show these things, and the action will explain them.

In conclusion, I hope you will pardon me for an apparent egotistic sentiment when I say that I would not exchange the true friendship and cordial recognition of one noble man or woman for all the honors and rewards that we have no remedy by the ballot, and even twisted me during the election and even since the beginning of the contest of John G. Carlisle and myself, even earnest counsel, that a mechanic would never be allowed a seat in Congress, no matter how many votes he might get. I need not believe it for awhile, but I can confess that my judgment on the subject has become as versatile and unsteady as that of the Hon. W. D. Bynum, whether I am in the majority or the minority I apprehend makes but little difference in these trying times of peace, poverty and penitence.

Very respectfully,  
GEO. H. THOBURN.

If Mr. Bynum is the friend of the laboring man, why did he not show his friendship to Mr. Thoburn? Why did he not sustain his cause? On the contrary, he voted for Mr. Carlisle and is rewarded with re-election as a member of the committee of ways and means. He deserted Mr. Thoburn, and in fact, the cause of every laboring man in this congressional district. I insist that in this contest he was the enemy of the laboring man, and will do nothing for him in Congress.

To use Mr. Thoburn's language, his policy is "tricky and treacherous," and he betrays him whatever to their confidence.

W. H. H.

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 13.

The Mills Bill 27 Per Cent. Reduction.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal.

I have heard the Democratic cry of Republican tariff robbers so many times and have heard that cry of reducing taxation, as they call it, 7 per cent, or 5 per cent, that it has caused me to investigate the proposed tariff reduction.

The duties collected in 1887 were \$179,741,330. The Mills bill calls for partial reductions, \$29,712,641. Entirely free on the list, \$19,733,299. Total reduction, \$49,445,940, or about 27 per cent average. Why do Democratic liars then place the reduction at 5 or 7 per cent? We cannot countenance these reductions, as let it, it would necessarily injure the laboring man; 2d, it would cause a yearly deficit of over \$15,000,000 a year in the United States Treasury; 3d, the expenses of the government is within \$5,000,000 of the entire income and we would be forced to raise the deficit by direct taxation; 3d, we do not want the country to go free trade because a manufacturer, if he saw that he would be losing money in his business, would naturally close up shop, realize what he could and become a loafer, and would not want to 8 per cent reduction, a larger margin than half of our manufacturers are realizing to-day out of their factories. Should such things come to pass, what would our laboring men have to do? The laboring man is satisfied that cheaper goods and foreign labor cannot increase his wages, and at best would have to depend on the charity of the State for a living. The following epitaph in a certain graveyard will be of interest:

"I was well,  
I was better,  
I took a dose of bitter medicine,  
Here lies what is left of me."

W. E. W.

Australia a Good Example of What the Democratic Policy Would Make Us.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal.

Justified by its record, the Democratic party is now and has always been a free-trade party. An excellent example of what it seeks to make out of this country is found in Australia.

Australia has always had free trade, at least so far as England is concerned. The duties there average 13 per cent. There are no diversified industries in those colonies. Fawcett's English Colonies says of the industries, "The most important of all is the breeding, rearing and tending of sheep and cattle. This is almost exclusively done by large squatters, who own from 100,000 to 500,000 and whose runs cover many square miles. The capitalists, agents, and merchants live in the cities. Free trade has turned the country people into cow-boys, who are compelled to pass their lives on horse back, herding cattle and the sheep, and whose children, isolated from others, grow up without schooling. That this is no fancy picture is shown by the fact that Australia has 222,690 out of a total population of 923,000, live in the one capital city of Melbourne. This is more than one-third of the entire population. What Australia has done is to make the free trade policy a mere commercial dependency of England. But to see the full force of this we must take another fact in connection with it, that the people of that country do not meet the demands of English trade is shown by the fact that the average amount of earnings sent

home by Australian Englishmen is \$17.50, while the same class send home from the United States \$50 per head.

The latest figures, 1882, give the exports all told, round numbers, \$200,000,000, but the imports \$310,000,000, leaving a balance of trade against the Australians of \$50,000,000. Let it be said that this is exceptional, we must not forget that the national debt is a billion of dollars to a total population of two and one-half millions of people, a national debt 100 per cent larger than our enormous war debt at the close of the war. This debt has doubled since 1872. Here let our free-trade champions, including my Bynum, stick a pin. This is the inevitable result to all countries who trade with a capitalist and manufacturing nation like Great Britain. Whatever we may be now, free-trade, according to the real claims of its adherents, will make the ruinous nation of us in a comparatively short time.

A peculiar feature of the \$200,000,000 exports is that \$100,000,000 of it is wool, raised by cow-boys, who get \$18 a month, and pass their lives on horse-back, and whose isolated children must grow up without a chance at schooling. These people are to be pitied. But the Mills bill proposes to reduce the duty on wool to 10 per cent, thus making it impossible for the cow-boys to grow to this same cow-boy civilization, by forcing him to compete with a nation of cow-boys, the products of English free trade in Australia.

The thoroughness with which England has monopolized Australia trade is apparent from the amounts of imports from that country—\$100,000,000 out of \$200,000,000.

GREENCASTLE, Sept. 14.

Farmers and the Tariff.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal.

The idea that the farmers of the West are opposed to the present protective tariff system, or are in any degree affected with free-trade notions, is far from the truth. A recent trip through northern Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska and eastern Colorado gave me an opportunity to make some inquiries on this subject. I met a Michigan farmer, also, on the cars, who told me that where he lived the farmers are nearly all Democrats. He said he knew a number of Democrats in his neighborhood who would vote for Harrison on that issue alone.

The same sentiment prevails among the farmers of Nebraska. With oats at 10 cents a bushel and corn at 20 cents, because of the long distance of transportation, they realize that what they want is a good market near home, and that the market is afforded by the building up of manufacturing and commercial centers near them. They see that farming land increases in value rapidly around every growing town because of the home market that it affords for their products, and they have intelligence enough to understand that the destruction or mutilation of our protective system would depress the manufacturing industries and prevent the building up of new towns and the prosperity of old ones.

I think it may be safely said that this sentiment prevails generally among the agricultural classes of the West and Northwest, and that the Republicans need have no apprehension that the farmers are going to vote for free trade, pauperism and pauperism.

ISAAC HEER.

EVANSTON, Ill., Sept. 13.

General Harrison and His Regiment.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal.

I see in to-day's Sentinel, on page 3, first column, an article headed "Harrison and His Regiment," which is false in every particular. In the first place, our regiment held its thirteenth annual reunion at Irvington, Oct. 13, 1887, just eleven months ago. Second, Benjamin Harrison was not the speaker at that reunion. The speaker called him to St. Louis, Mo., a few days before our meeting at Irvington, and on account of unforeseen causes or something that he could not do, he was unable to attend. The speaker called him to St. Louis, Mo., a few days before our meeting at Irvington, and on account of unforeseen causes or something that he could not do, he was unable to attend.

He has never missed but two of our reunions. In 1883 we met at Mooreville, Mo., and in 1884 we met at Washington, D. C. He is the president officer of the organization, and our next meeting will be at Southport, Marion county, Ind., on the 10th of September, 1889, and Benjamin Harrison will come all the way from the White House, from the present indication of the times, to attend our fifteenth annual reunion. The speaker called him to St. Louis, Mo., a few days before our meeting at Irvington, and on account of unforeseen causes or something that he could not do, he was unable to attend.

copy this for the benefit of its readers that prefer the truth to lies or misrepresentations.

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 15.

J. M. WILLIS,

Company C, 70th Indiana.

The Republican Legislative Candidates.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal.

An editorial in Saturday's News says: "In the name of humanity, and of a civilized civilization, the condition of things in our State charities for many years past has been a disgrace. There should be no substitution of one political management for another, and if the Republicans object to the present management, they are pledged to take their institutions out of politics by means of civil-service reform which will place them upon the basis of merit and fitness."

The above is the platform exactly on which Messrs. Calkins and Toney stand, and have so pledged themselves; yet the News demands in another column an amendment to our legislative ticket and the substitution of one in the place of these gentlemen. We do think that the elements of success tend so strongly towards their election that the News and all others interested in good management should not neglect institutions which will place them upon the basis of merit and fitness.

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## AFFAIRS OF THE RAILWAYS.

The Exhibits Not as Favorable as It Should Be.

The scarcity of cars is seriously interfering with business. There is not an Indianapolis line that would not have done more business last week than it did could the cars have been commandeered to move the freight offered. The train records show that 1,181 fewer loaded cars were received and forwarded at Indianapolis in the week ending Sept. 15 than in the preceding week. When compared with the corresponding week in 1887 the exhibit is even more unfavorable, but it should be said that the volume of traffic in the week ending Sept. 17, 1887, was the largest of any week in the year. Not until 1885 is reached is the car movement as light in corresponding weeks as it was last week. In west-bound business the tonnage was hardly up to the first week of September, and the scarcity of cars had, no doubt, something to do with this falling off, as merchants and business men generally are complaining that their freight shipped from the East are delayed more or less. North and south roads are doing admirably, holding cars and carrying a large tonnage. The J. & M. I., for instance, made a most favorable exhibit of work last year. Local traffic is at a high tide. The roads have learned to keep the cars intended for local service on their lines, and consequently their freightage is not so high as it was some time back. The tonnage of merchandise, furniture and machinery is unusually heavy. The livestock shipments are much lighter than at any time in the year, but the tonnage of grain, coal and other commodities is much heavier than at any time in the week ending Sept. 15, as compared with the corresponding weeks 1887 and 1886.

The deep cut which the Vandallia and the Indianapolis & St. Louis roads are making to St. Louis is paralyzing the scalpers, who had put the cars of the route on a high price of tickets of G. A. R. excursionists, many of whom live in the East, and merely took advantage of the cheap rates to reach home. On Thursday evening last the cars were put on a low price, at which it was agreed to sell no tickets to St. Louis for less than \$6, and now the Vandallia and the I. & St. L. come out and make a \$3 round trip rate to that point. The excursionists are that the rate will stand until Nov. 1.

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